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SUBJ: TRIAL OF ALLEGED JUNE CONSPIRATORS: SALONGO DESCRIBES CONSPIRACY

REF: A) KINSHASA 7959 B) KINSHASA A-166

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. SUMMARY: IN A SERIES OF 6 ARTICLES ENTITLED "TRIAL OF THE YEAR" AND WRITTEN BY ELEBE MA EKONZO (PRESENT DELEGUE GENERAL OF AZAP AND PAST ZAIRIAN AMBASSADOR TO BELGIUM), DAILY NEWSPAPER SALONGO OUTLINED STORY OF ALLEGED CONSPIRACY AND REVIEWED CHARGES OF OUTSIDE INVOLVEMENT. ARTICLES SEEM TO BE ATTEMPT TO PUT TO REST DEFINITELY WHOLE STORY OF COUP MANQUE. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO SALONGO, THERE WERE TWO CONSPIRACIES, ONE REAL AND THE OTHER SIMULATED--BOTH ILLEGAL. INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN BOTH AFFAIRS HAVE BEEN ARRAIGNED, TRIED AND CONDEMNED BY THE GENERAL WAR COUNCIL. (REF. AND B).

3. STORY OF REAL CONSPIRACY AS TOLD BY ELEBE WA EKONZO FOLLOW OUTLINE OF REPORTS IN KINSHASA PRESS IN JUNE OF UNHAPPINESS IN "IMPERIALIST" CIRCLES DUE TO MOBUTU'S INDEPENDENCE OF ACTION

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IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS (BREAK WITH ISRAEL, DENOUNCING OF EXPLITATION

OF POOR BY RICH COUNTRIES AND ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH COMMUNIST COUNTRIES) AS WELL AS IN DOMESTIC POLICIES (ZAIRIANIZATION).

THESE CIRCLES, ACCORDING TO ELEBE, CONTACTED DISCONTENTED ZAIRIANS ABROAD.

4. THUS ZAIRIAN MILITARY FIGURES LIVING IN THE UNITED STATES, INFECTED BY IMPERIALISM, PROVIDED THE PLAN BY WHICH MOBUTU WOULD BE OVERTHROWN.
SPECALLY GENERAL FALLU SUMBU, MILITARY ATTACHE IN WASHINGTON FROM JUNE 1972 TIL MAY 1975, IS SAID TO HAVE CONCEIVED PLOT AND PROVIDED FOR ITS TRANSPORT TO ZAIRE VIA SECOND LIEUTENANT KABAMBA, A ZAIRIAN OFFICER STUDYING IN UNITED STATES.

5. KABAMBA, IN EXCHANGE FOR FALLU'S ASSITANCE TO MEET MOUNTING PERSONAL DEBTS DUE TO MEDICAL EXPENSES, AGREED TO CARRY INFOMATION FROM FALLU TO CO-CONSPIRATORS IN ZAIRE: GENERALS KATSHUVA, UTSHUDI, AND NGAYI, AND COLONEL OMBA, AS WELL AS MAJORS BULA AND MPIKA. IN ADDITION, KABAMBA WAS CHARGED WITH TASK OF RECRUITING JUNIOR GRADE AND NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS FOR THE CONSPIRACY.

6 KAMBABA RETURNED TO ZAIRE WHERE HE CONTACTED OLD FRIENDS FROM HIS DAYS AT KITONA: OFFICERS MUHARABU, MWANZA, MUKUNA, AND KAYEMBE. MAKUNA IN TURN, CONTACTED OTHERS, INCLUDING A NEIGHBOR HE SOUGHT TO INVOLVE IN THE COUP. MUKUNA LAID THE DETAILS OF THE PLOT BEFORE HIS NEIGHBOR: THE COUP WOULD BE COMPLETED BY OFFICERS CLANDESTINELY RECRUTED BY KABAMBA AND MUKUNA. SUPPORT FOR COUP WOULD COME FROM TWO FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND FOREIGN COMMANDOS WOULD BE STATIONED, ON THE EVE OF COUP, SOME SIXTY KILOMETRS OFF SHORE FROM BANANA.

7. MUKUNA LISTED NAMES OF THE INDIVIDUALS TO BE ARRESTED AND SPECIFIED THAT IF THE COUP SHOULD FAIL, THE CONSPIRATORS WOULD SEEK PREARRANGED ASYLUM IN TWO FOREIGN EMBASSIES. FINALLY, WHILE THE DATE FOR COUP HAD YET TO BE SET, MAKUNA TOLD HIS FRIEND THAT IT WOULD OCCUR BEFORE END OF YEAR.

8. MUKUNA'S FRIEND DEPARTED AND WENT PROMPTLY TO A MILITANT IN THE MPR WHO NOTIFIED COMPETENT AUTHORITES. THUS, ACCORDING TO ELEBE, PLOT WAS UNCOVERED AND FURTHER DETAILS REVEALED. NDELE, PULUKU, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LWANGO, AND KANYERE WERE IMPLICATED AS HAVING LENT SUPPORT TO THE PLOT. COMMISSAIRE D'ETAT FOR POST AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS TSHOMBA WAS GUILTY OF COMPLICTY, HAVING ALLOWED FALLU EASY LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH UTSHUDI AND OMBA.

9. YET, NOTED ELEBE, THERE WERE OTHERS CONVICTED IN THE "TRIAL OF THE YEAR". THEY WERE CONVICTED FOR THEIR ROLES IN FALSE CONSPIRACY, LOCUS OF WHICH WAS PARIS, WITH PRINCIPAL ACTOR BEING

ZAIRIAN MILITARY ATTACHE COLONEL MUDIAYI.

10. IN 1974 MUDIAYI CONCEIVED OF A METHOD OF UTILIZING HANDFUL OF DISCONTENTED ZAIRIANS LIVING IN PARIS FOR HIS OWN ENRICHMENT. WITH COOPERATION OF THESE MALCONTENTS PLUS CERTAIN FOREIGNERS, MUDIAYI ARRANGED FOR THEM TO TAPE SUBVERSIVE CONVERSATIONS. MUDIAYI THEN SENT TAPES OF THESE CONVERSATIONS BACK TO THE GOZ WITH REQUESTS FOR MONEY TO COMBAT THE SUBVERSIVES. THE MONEY, WHICH WAS FORTHCOMING, WAS THEN DIVIDED BETWEEN MUDIAYI AND HIS FRIENDS, GOZ WAS, IN SHORT, BILKED. END UNCLASSIFIED BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

11. COMMENT: SERIES OF ARTICLES SOMEWHAT DISJOINTED IN PRESENTATION AND CONTENT. WHILE MUDIAYI STORY SOUNDS IMPLAUSIBLE, IT NEVERTHELESS ONE THAT HAD BEEN CIRCLATING PRIOR TO ITS PUBLICATIONS

IN SALONGO. OTHER RUMORS HAVE ALSO ABOUNDED INCLUDING ONE WHICH SUGGESTS THAT WHOLE PLOT WAS CONCEIVED BY SECRET SOCIETY CALLED "PEOPLE OF FOREST". ANOTHER PARTICULARLY CURIOUS ARTICLE IN SERIES WAS THAT DEVOTED TO PROVIDING REASONS FOR COL. OMBA BEING ONLY ONE CHARGED WITH ASSASSINATION. CHARGE, ACCORDING ELEBE, WAS BASED ON 1970-1972 INCIDENT INVOLVING DEATHS, PURPORTEDLY ORDERED BY OMBA, OF SOME 150 "BANDITS" IN SHABA REGION. EXPLANATION GIVEN, HOWEVER, IS FAR FROM SATISFACTORY IN THAT IT DUCKS QUESTION OF WHY GOZ TOOK SO LONG TO BRING HIM TO TRIAL. NATURAL ASSUMPTION WOULD BE THAT THERE IS SOMETHING MORE WHICH GOVERNMENT (OR MOBUTU) NOT WILLING TO HAVE REVEALED, CONSEQUENTLY DEATH SENTENCE IS ONLY WAY OUT. IN THIS CONNECTION, EVER PRESENT RUMOR MILL SUGGESTS THAT OF SEVEN CONSPIRATORS CONDEMNED TO DEATH, ONLY OMBA WILL BE ACTUALLY EXECUTED. THERE WILL BE SOME TIME BEFORE ALL THESE RUMORS WILL DIE DOWN, BUT IT ALWAYS POSSIBLE THAT COMBINATION OF ALL STORIES MAY EVENTUALLY REVEAL WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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12. WHETHER THERE WAS EVER ANTI-MOBUTU PLOT OF ANY TYPE IS STILL MATTER OF CONJECTURE. IT IS QUITE CLEAR THAT MANY TOTALLY DISCOUNT CHARGES OF FOREIGN INVOLVEMENT AND IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE NARATIVE FORM IN WHICH ELEBE RESTATED CHARGES WILL HAVE MUCH EFFECT ON PUBLIC OPINION.

13. RECAPITULATION OF CHARGES MADE IN JUNE WITHOUT NAMING OF FOREIGN POWER BUT EMPHASIS ON "IMPERIALISTS" SUGGESTS GOZ MERELY STICKING TO ITS STORY BUT AT SAME TIME IS MAKING DEFINITIVE WRAP UP AND TRYING TO LAY CASE TO REST. WALKER

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